

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca (Paul Erickson)
Subject: [822] '95 handbook NN1G transciever
Message-ID: <9512040741.AA17586@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca>

I would appreciate hearing from anyone who has built the nn1g transciever found in the 1995 ARRL Handbook.

cheers, Paul
VE7CQK
email: paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Duane Anderson <dandersn@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [862] Acceptable Headphones for QRP work
Message-ID: <199512042055.MAA26917@ix7.ix.netcom.com>

I know there was some discussion about a week ago on the subject of proper and workable headphones here, but when you get a little older the memory fades a bit (hi hi). Anyway, the question is this:
Did someone say the Radio Shack headphones they have for communication work, (mono) is good to use or not? I have a set of stereo headphones and wonder if they will not be as good as other ones. Maybe that is the reason Im having a bit of a hard time hearing a lot of other stations.

Anyway, any help would be appreciated on this re-hash of an old subject.

72/73,
Duane, KJ7HO
QRP-L 164

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Subject: [846] ARCI CW Holiday Spririts Homebrew Sprint
Message-ID: <951204130547_124547616@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Hi gang,

Conditions were poor for the recent Sprint, with high levels of noise on 40 meters, from S7 to S9 making 40m mostly unusable until the last hour of the contest, from my location. I listened to 80m a couple of times but didnt hear any contest activity, noise levels were in the S8 to S9 levels here also.

Even 20m was S1 to S3 QRN. Heres the breakdown, operating from Michigan:

15m 3 qso's OR, AZ, OR

20m 18 qso's AR, AZ, CA, CO, GA, MT, TX, OR, RI, WA, MAN

40M 10 qso's IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, WI

128 qso pts X 20 s/p/c's X 7 (pwr 5 wts) = 17,920

I was planning on running 1 watt for this contest, but after hearing the current band conditions, decided to run 5 watts. I averaged between 7 and 9 qso's per hour, the first half hour as usual was slow but picked up in the second half hour. I also heard but couldnt work KE2WB, WA2VCD, KB2SMW, K1TG and others. Either a lot of QRP contesters decided not to work this one, or band conditions were really terrible. How were conditions from your neck of the woods?

Rig: QRP Plus at 5 watts, antenna: Gap Titan vertical, DSP: JPS NRF-7.

72, Byron WA8LCZ

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995

From: KD8FR@aol.com

Subject: [844] BREAKFAST DATE CHANGE

Message-ID: <951204122746_124517954@mail04.mail.aol.com>

Hi All,

In this month's The Five Watter (the Michigan QRP Club's quarterly) I erred in giving the date of the Special Holiday Breakfast as December 23rd. In fact, it will be held on December 30th, which puts it between Christmas and New Year's, as it is every year. Sorry for the mistake.

For those of you who live close enough to attend, we would be glad to have you with us at Country Jim's Restaurant in Davison, MI at 10:00 a.m. It is located at 10098 Lapeer Road in Davison -- take the Davison (M-15) exit off I-69 east of Flint and go north to the first traffic light. Turn right (east) to 10098 Lapeer Road. Plan to join us for this event. All are welcome.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all on the QRP-L.

72/73, Lowell D. Corbin, KD8FR

President: Michigan QRP Club

3315 Sheffer Avenue

Lansing, MI 48906-2453

KD8FR@AOL.COM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: hysell@kodak.com (John D. Hysell)
Subject: [824] CASCADE and Ten-Tec 6m transverter
Message-ID: <9512041242.AA09898@runner.itc.Kodak.COM>

Mark writes:

> It occurred to me the other day that it might be interesting to pair the
> Cascade with the Ten-Tec 6M transverter. If I remember correctly, anyway,
> the Ten-Tec uses a 20M IF and takes a few hundred mW for input and puts 3 or
> 4 W. I really don't know that much about 6M these days...my experience on 6M
> is with the old Heath Sixer back when it was new...but it sounds like an
> interesting set-up.

> Any thoughts or comments from the gang?

> 73... Mark AA7TA

I have both the Ten-Tec transverter and the Cascade, and did indeed think about pairing them. Unfortunately, it is not so simple to pull off without losing something in the bargain. The Ten-Tec applies a straight conversion of 14MHz freq as an IF up to the 50MHz output. SO if you want to work where MOST of the 6m action is, you need to set the Cascade for 14.125 (just below where the band edge is set by design). If you tinker with the 20m band edge to reach 14.125, you are also driving the 75m upper edge higher, and losing the low end of 75m...

Still might be fun to do temporarily, but I wouldn't want to leave the Cascade crippled on 75m like that...

73 -John

KF2XC (QRP-L # 208)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: dh@deneb.csustan.edu (Doug Hendricks)
Subject: [860] Dec. NorCal Meeting
Message-ID: <9512042028.AA17091@deneb.csustan.edu>

The December meeting of the NorCal QRP club was business as usual. That is, there was no business meeting, but a lot of QRP enthusiasts were present. I didn't make a head count, it doesn't matter, but I would estimate 40 to 50, the usual size of the crowd.

Lots of homebrew projects present; 3 or 4 Cascades, a Wilderness Radio prototype Sierra and a production run Sierra minus a few parts that they are waiting on, a mighty mite 40 meter transmitter by Lew Cook from the W1FB QRP Notebook, a Jeff Furman production of the Pixie, (no 386, he built it using transistors only) using point to point construction, a real maze of wires but interesting to see. David Fifield had his 40 meter transceiver from the Nov. issue of QST article by Rick Campbell. Dave etched the boards and did a beautiful job.

And one of the highlights was the appearance of 8 or 9 entrants to the "Great NorCal Regenerative Receiver" building contest. Last month, I received a copy of information on how to build a regen receiver from Paul Harden, NA5N. I had so much fun playing with it that I thought it would be neat to have a building contest for the members. So, I redrew Paul's schematic (wanted to have it machine drawn) and wrote up a set of contest rules. Basic stuff like size of chassis (.75" x 3.5" x 5" (which is a 1 x 4 that is 5 inches long)), size of front panel (3" x 5") and the fact that the circuit could be modified in any way, that any type of construction could be used. It just had to be a regen receiver and to be entered in the contest, it had to work. Oh, it had to have a 9V battery connector for power and it had to have a self-contained speaker. IT was a good thing that I said the circuit could have mods because I made a couple of errors in redrawing it. It didn't faze the NorCal guys. In fact, I think that some of them thought that I had done it on purpose, wish that I could say that was true, but it was just an honest mistake. We had two categories; beauty (no there was not a swim suit contest, we are politically correct here on the left coast, darn it) and funtionality. The prize was a copy of the 95 back issues of QRPP.

David Fifield won the prize for beauty, as his rig was a thing of beauty. The front panel was 3/16" thick machined aluminum with all of the holes for the speaker grill counter sunk, and a perfect job of rub on lettering for the controls. He made a circuit board, and it was all very nicely done.

Kit Blanke, won the prize for functionality. We judged this by hooking the rigs up to the same 10 foot piece of wire and seeing which one received the best. Kit's was amazing. We copied cw, am broadcast, SSB, and teletype signals with his. The regen control worked really well.

Others entering the contest were Jim Cates, Frank Guerny, Vern Wright, Jim Pepper, Bruce Florip and a couple of others whose names I missed. Everyone thought it was great fun. Those of you who are having regional meetings might take this idea and run with it. It is easy to do. Copy a schematic of a simple project, give it to everyone who comes to your meeting and see what happens at the next one. Offer a simple prize or two, and you will be amazed. It is a great interest builder, the guys will have a ball and they will learn. The ones who don't build will get to see all of the different construction methods used, and will learn by observation. I heard several comments like:

"Gee, that looks easy. I'm going to go home and build one."

"Oh, I never would have thought of doing that, but it is a great idea."

"Sure wish I would have brought mine."

"Glad I didn't bring mine."

"What are those things? I don't recognize them. Are they really coils?"

"Vern, where did you get your pc boards? You really made them? How? Is it hard? Can you teach me?"

Vic Black, AB6SO, even went to the trouble of having 3" x 5" aluminum panels cut and left at HSC, where Dave Joseph, WA6BOY is the manager and had copies of the schematics to hand out. NorCal members who missed the meeting were able to pick up a copy of the schematic and were able to get a free panel from Dave courtesy of Vic. True NorCal spirit.

The builders all said that it was fun building and debugging, and that it was a great stress releaver for them.

If you need ideas for circuits, contact Paul Harden, NA5N who is an expert with Regen Receivers. Or, you can take one of the simple rigs that are in one of the popular QRP books. Why not have your members design a rig to fit in the base of one of the white rook paddles. Or, design a rig on a key made out of pboard? There are tons of possibilities. Take advantage of them and have some fun. Charles Kitchin has written an excellent article in Communications Quarterly on Regen Receivers. He also has one in the current edition of the ARRL handbook. Do some research, come up with a project, copy the instructions and circuit and go for it.

Some advice: Be sure that you give them a list of parts for the project. Tell them that they can sub, but this list of parts will work for sure. (It is best to have projects that can be built from locally available sources. If there is a part not available locally, order a supply and make them available to the members. Give them away, it builds camaraderie and it gives you a sense of helping, which is a great feeling.)

Don't give them a set of step by step instructions. They will drive you crazy with questions. Give them the schematic, tell them they can use any construction process they want, and you will find that they will learn to build from a schematic. Tell them if they have trouble to contact another member and get some help. This will get them working together and help them build friendships, which is what ham radio is ALL about.

I think that it is important to have the project work in order to be eligible for the prizes, but you could have a division for the "ones that won't work".

The important part is to have fun! Write up the results and have it published somewhere, your local journal, or if you don't have one, send it to me and I will put it in QRPp. Don't forget to take some pictures (I did

darn it.)

72, Doug, KI6DS

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Charles Cashion <ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com>
Subject: [851] diode bridge
Message-ID: <199512041914.AA16885@aplo1.spd.dsccc.com>

Gentlemen and Q-R-Peers:

Charles Copeland <charles1@netcom.com> reported (cc>)

cc> HELPFUL HINT:
cc> Install a diode bridge on DC input. (usually used to rectify AC to DC).
cc> No matter what polarity you connect DC to board, the correct polarity
cc> will be presented to the circuit board.

Yes. What Charles says is true. But, in addition, you also give up at least 1.2 volts loss, and it leaves your receiver circuit riding at least 0.6 volts above power supply ground. With a little forethought, the 1.2 volts loss might be compensated (and therefore acceptable). But if the receiver circuit were riding 0.6 volts above ground, and the antenna circuit were not isolated from ground (i.e. the antenna circuit is grounded), then I believe you have intentionally created a ground loop (not desireable).

OBQRP: I have found my Explorer II. (which is to say it went on a little exploration of its own?). It is sitting in an OOPS -- err -- UPS warehouse someplace in North Dallas.....But on the other hand, without a valid license, I really have no use for an Explorer just yet.

OB-humor: Who was it that said, "we don't need no stinkin licenses!"

Charles Cashion

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+ - - - - - +  
| Charles Cashion  w.214-519-2583  h.214-881-0952 |  
| ARRL  NorTex#116  NorCal#1320  QRP-L#76  ex-W5ISZ |  
+ - - - - - +
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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995

From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [833] Explorer II alignment - why a 10x probe?
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512041049.A4487-01000000@w3eax.umd.edu>

Check your specs for probes - they have capacitance that tends to, in this case, pull the frequency of the thing you're trying to align!

Try it and see! At 1x it was something like 2 kHz. At 10x it was more like 200 Hz.

Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19 QRV 40-10/6/2/440
** Yes, you CAN do VHF contests with 25W and omni antennas **
Still stuck at 138 countries confirmed on HF w/dipoles...

72 & 73 from lovely suburban DC 301-549-1022 weekends/evenings

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Bernard Seront <seront@seism1.ess.sunysb.edu>
Subject: [831] Explorer II re:review
Message-ID: <9512041524.AA12097@seism1.ess.sunysb.edu>

At 05:38 PM 12/2/95 EST, genunn@mmm.com wrote:

> The only flaw in the kit
> was a 2.7 ohm resistor was missing (a 2.7k ohm was apparently sent by
> mistake).

Mine came with the correct 2.7 ohm resistor, I think (I will double check this evening, but actually the rig works).

Only flaw was a cap in the wrong bag (!). And the 150 pF caps described as J150 in the manual but marked J151 on the component (which actually is the correct value: 15 multiplied by 10 to the power 1, i.e. 150 pF), not a problem as there is no confusion possible with any other component. The ARRL handbook has a chapter on how to read a component value.

Some changes I did, or would find useful:

I changed the key jack for a RCA (a different connector for each function, no confusion possible when connecting, even in the dark), the hole is slightly too big but not a problem. Also, I would have preferred a 3.5 stereo jack for the earphones (to avoid the ugly adapter), and a fuse holder on the back panel would be nice (too late for me to drill a hole as everything is already in the box, will add an inline fuse).

To answer a question I saw last week about a diode to protect the rig if the power supply polarity is reversed: the 1N4007 diode soldered across the PS connector is there for this: if the polarity is reversed the diode conducts,

which is a shortcut for the PS and blow the fuse (the fuse need to be between the PS and the diode!).

> It required about 10 hours to complete (for a rather experienced
>kit builder). The quality of the circuit board and documentation combined
>to make this a pleasure to build.
>

around 8 hours (alignment not done yet), my first radio but not my first kit.
I suggest the use of a low power soldering iron with a really thin tip, I
did the whole job with a 12W one.

>The tuning procedure calls for a freq counter with 10 to 1 probe and a
>working rig on the same band. OHR will align it for you for \$30 (\$37 for
>Canadian customers, \$50 for all others).
>

Why a 10 to 1 probe? Is it an impedance problem, will an oscilloscope 10/1
probe do the job? By the way the freq counter input impedance is 1 Mohm and
the probes I found at work are 10 Mohms impedance, not such a big
difference. Any suggestion?

In conclusion, I am really impressed by the quality of the kit! I would
recommend it to any beginner.

Bernard, KB2TGH.

PS: I apologize for my, perhaps, poor spelling, English is not my first
language. I will not read any flame on the subject, but gladly accept
corrections.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [840] feedline transformation
Message-ID: <9512041633.AA28148@voder.nsc.com>

Last week I got some great help from this list on
feedline transformers.

The answer was that the 450ohm ladder line was causing
a mismatch in the feedline run. From 50ohm coax to ladder
line to dipole. Since the ladder line was less than 1/2
wave length.

Here's my question:

How much ladder line can cause the mismatch?
At what point does the 450ohm have an effect?

10 feet? 5 feet? 6 inches? 2 inches?

There must be a minimum at which the 450ohm impedance is no longer a factor.

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=====
7.3 de Michael aa0ub          | QRP:
miker@cc.com                  |      "UR HB 5W FB HR 72"
QRP-L #126 Norcal #857 CQC #180 |
=====
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From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: RobCap@aol.com
Subject: [865] For Sale: Solar Panel, \$75
Message-ID: <951204164602_44145343@mail04.mail.aol.com>

For Sale: Solar Panel, in handsome atache case. Price is \$75 (firm), which includes UPS ground shipping to your QTH in the continental U.S.

Description: Solar Panel is housed in a handsome beige textured plastic case, with integrated carrying handle and black latches to close the case. Case opens to reveal two panels, one on each side, wired in parallel. The panels are flush mounted within the case, and are held in place with black rubber strips.

Dimensions of the case are: 18.5 inches x 13 inches x 1.75 inches (including handle).

Dimensions of the panel are: 12 inches x 12 inches.

Connection to the array is made via a DC coaxial jack, 5.5 mm by 2.1 mm, built into the plastic case.

Panel voltage is approximately 19-20 volts, and power output is approximately 250 mA into a 12 volt 7 amp-hour gel cell.

Please e-mail directly to me (Robcap@AOL.com), because I am not monitoring the QRP-L at the moment.

73,

Rob, WA3ULH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: David Capshaw <David.Capshaw@SEMATECH.Org>
Subject: [848] For Sale: Ten-Tec Argo 556 (5W Scout)
Message-ID: <199512041836.MAA19453@conan.eng.sematech.org>

For Sale: a Ten-Tec Argo 556 (the 5W Scout) with band modules for 40, 30 and 20 plus the hand-held mic. Rig is 6 mo. old, has the manual, original boxes, etc. \$480.

For information send email (David.Capshaw@SEMATECH.ORG) or call 512.288.1135 (evenings).

Dave N5JND

P.S. a subscriber to QRP-L (but no number yet..)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: ae4ic@nr.infi.net (BOB KELLOGG)
Subject: [868] Holiday Spirit Sprint
Message-ID: <199512042241.RAA19217@moe.infi.net>

Alright, Guys, make way for a *POWER CONTESTER*

This is what happened in Greensboro. I don't know whether the band was good or bad. Just jump in there on 40 meters and tough it out. Tried hunt and pounce, but before I could get tuned right on someone, he would be faded out or moved or covered up, or something (maybe my AGC was hurting me). Worked two guys the first hour. The second hour the pace picked up for about 20 minutes then died, so I tried calling CQ. Wonder of wonders! -- a pileup!!? I don't know. I worked 4 stations in 5 minutes, a real first for me. Tried 20 and 15 meters, but There was very little activity and I got tired of waiting for my chance to work the few guys I heard. Worked 5 stations on 80, then back to 40. Later, I calculated my score and realized I could get 5000 bonus points for the first contact on each band! Too late, oh, well.

40M NH,NJ,MD,IN,NY,FL,UT,PA,CT,KY,AL,AR,WI,SC
80M PA,GA,NJ,VA

15,876 PTS + 10,000 BONUS = 25,876 TOTAL

Good? Bad? Who knows? It was a lot of fun!
Bob Kellogg, AE4IC

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: jgoemans@facstaff.wisc.edu (Jane Goemans)
Subject: [870] Holiday Spirits Sprint
Message-ID: <199512042325.RAA110691@audumla.students.wisc.edu>

Hi All,

I was actually surprised at the HIGH level of activity I found on the sprint. Ran 20 mtrs till I found only dupes, went to 40 mtrs for same, back to 20 mtrs, it was dying so back to 40 mtrs for more. About the last 15 minutes hit 80 mtrs, which had very little activity.

Did hear the Telephone Pioneers on 40, and a FISTS station or 2... Found 40, 80 kinda noisy but nothing my aural DSP couldn't handle! Used my HB rigs, Radiokit QRP-20, NN1G/Dan's Small Parts on 40, also my Argosy II. Used Butternut HF6V, and Cushcraft A3s tribander. SPC totals 5 on 80, (5 QSOs), 20 on 40 (39 QSOs), 19 on 20 (29 QSOs). The only DX I worked was VE2BLX and HP1AC, or should I include W03B with his 100mW ? Score with those bonus points, 101k points ...

72 Paul WA9PWP QRP ARCI, NorCal, QRP-L, etc etc...
Paul Goemans WA9PWP
4326 Clover Court Madison, WI 53711-4805
608-274-5143 jgoemans@facstaff.wisc.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Electronic Design Magazine <dmalinak@CLASS.ORG>
Subject: [847] Holiday Sprint
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951204101622.2063A-100000@class.class.org>

Pretty lousy conditions were encountered in Northern New Jersey for yesterday's Spring. Only a dozen QSOs, all on 40 meters with the NorCal 40a. Heard Byron WA8LCZ (is that right, Byron?) but couldn't make him hear me.

Just curious...many stations were sending CQ TP. Anybody know what that means? QST didn't have any other contests this weekend but the Sprint and an 80-meter thing.

72 David N2SMH

Glen Rock, NJ

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: PAT DOYLE <DOYLEPS@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>
Subject: [825] Logging programs -Reply
Message-ID: <s0c2b2ae.059@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>

MicroHam, available from the ARRL BBS or
OAKLAND.OAK mirror is pretty good.

LOGMASTER PLUS PLUS, from Alan Yorinks, WB2OPA, is
a good program. I have the purchased program. I
recommend it. He also has two shareware programs
available from his BBS. One program is an older
version LOGMASTER PLUS PLUS and LOGRANGER. Both
are good DOS based logging programs. His support
is very good. The full version is compatible with
a number of callsign databases and contest
programs. His BBS number is (908) 787 2982.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: ruswhite@netwest.com (Russell W. White)
Subject: [876] MFJ 259 & Sprint II
Message-ID: <199512050229.TAA02913@saguaro.netwest.com>

This may help someone else so I'm posting "The rest of the story".

+++++

Hello Stan,

I wasn't sure if you were a subscriber to the list so I'm
sending this direct to you. I will also post it on the QRP-L list.

The FAR circuit board was at the house when I got home. I already
had all of the parts. I put it together and then fired up my 40 meter
Sprint II and connected the amplifier between the test loop and the
MFJ 259. I COULD READ THE FREQUENCY ! ! !

73 & GL, Russ AB7JX

-----Previous message-----

Hi Stan, you said

>Hi all...well, the OHR Sprint II (80 M) has finally been bench tested
>and has passed with flying colours!...The only fly in the ointment was
>the MFJ (something) frequency counter wouldn't take a reading from the
>test loop on the circuit board....something about needing a 600 ma signal
>before it would register....I

Well, you are not alone. I borrowed a Hewlett Packard freq. ctr from work and it worked fine when I adjusted my 40M Sprint. Later on I decide to adjust the Sprint to go from 7.000 to 7.150 (had been 7.000 to 7.100) this time I used my MFJ 259. I had the same problem as you did. I have a solution in the works. The Nov issue of "73" had a two transistor amplifier good from audio to 100MHZ. Parts can be bought at Radio Shack and FAR has a circuit board if you want to go that way. Monday I sent an order to FAR for the board (\$3 + \$1.50 s&h). I already have all of the other parts and the first thing I will do once it is built is try it with the Sprint and the MFJ. I guess I will post the results on the list for yourself and any others.

72, Russ

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|-----|
| Russ White AB7JX (ex WB1GQG) QRP-ARCI NORCAL NEQRP |
| Phoenix AZ |
| QRP-L #179 |
|-----|
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From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Dan Reynolds <bcdlr@slip.net>
Subject: [817] Need CA3160 Op Amp
Message-ID: <199512040411.UAA26882@slip-1.slip.net>

Does anybody have a CA3160 op amp they would be willing to sell me. I can't seem to find it at any of the usual outlets. I need it to build the QRP wattmeter, from QST Feb. 1990. I don't know how to substitute unless it is an exact duplicate, so if you have a suggestion for substituting please advise. Please email to bcdlr@slip.net.

Oh, I finally figured out that FT-37-77's replace FT-37-72's, (spec'd. in article).

Thanks for the help.

Peace+

Dan Reynolds, bcdlr@slip.net, KB9JL0

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: charles1@netcom.com (charles copeland)
Subject: [820] New member Intro
Message-ID: <199512040532.VAA27986@netcom3.netcom.com>

Hi from KC5LWF. I just subscribed to the qrp list and here is my intro. Been a ham since 1-1-95, and a tech+ working on CW for general.

Don't have a qrp rig yet, but run TS-820 with carrier turned WAY down. Any more than 10 watts causes problems. Apartment neighbors don't like TVI.

Hope to purchase a qrp rig soon.

There seems to be quite a few on the market, and I have looked at the reviews on the lehigh.edu site.

What qrp rig would you recommend for around \$100?
(please e-mail recommendations to charles1@netcom.com)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Larry East <LVE1@inel.gov>
Subject: [861] NorCal 40A - Some observations
Message-ID: <9512042042.AA01437@garnet.inel.gov>

A couple of weeks ago I finally got around to building the 40A kit I bought last winter (gotta get ready for the 30M Explorer II kit!).

Some observations that might be of interest to others:

I found that my Autek RF Analyzist to be a very handy gadget when winding the toroids. I had to remove one turn from one of the output filter toroids in order to get the "spec'd" inductance (the other one was fine with the specified number of turns) and two turns from the VFO coil; I removed another turn because I planned to increase the size of the 39pF coupling cap to the tuning diode (see below). Think the final inductance was about 20 microH. The Autek analyzer saved me a lot of "messing around" later, I'm sure!

I added a 2-20pF trimmer in parallel with the 39pF cap that couples to the tuning diode (don't remember the part number off-hand) to aid in setting the

frequency range. I mounted the trimmer (a sub-miniature type) in the holes intended for the 30pF cap and soldered the cap to the bottom of the board.

The little sucker fired right up the first time! Using the added trimmer and the normal "band set" trimmer, I was able to set the tuning range to 7.00 - 7.05 MHz. (I plan to install a vernier drive to the tuning pot, but haven't done it yet.)

The only problem is that I get very little AGC action; with the AGC pot all the way counter clockwise, the AGC just starts to act on strong signals. I replaced the two diodes (don't remember the part numbers... getting senile, I guess) with Ge types as per a posting from last winter; that helped a little, but not much. I've ordered a bunch of J309 FET's and will select and match a couple for low gate cut-off voltage.

Now for some interesting observations on output power. As assembled, my rig put out just a hair over 2 Watts. I replaced the output filter caps with silver mica, but used 750 pF for the center cap as I couldn't find an 820 pF one. Power output increased slightly -- about 2.25 watts. I decided to measure the final amp efficiency, and discovered that its collector current began increasing very rapidly as the output power was increased above about 2.2 Watts -- it went from about 300mA at 2W out to over 500mA at 2.25W! I then replaced the 2N3553 final with a 2SC799 and tried it again. Output power increased to about 2.5W, but again the collector current rose very rapidly above about 2.2 or 2.3W out. However, the efficiency was somewhat better at 2W output -- current was 285 mA as opposed to 300 mA for the 2N3553. At this point, I decided to drag out my 'scope and take a look at what was going on in the output amp. I discovered that the increase in current was due to the collector output being clamped at 36V by the "protection zenier" in the circuit. However, 36V PP corresponds to about 3.25W out into 50 Ohms, and I was only getting about 2.25W out when the clipping began (but the collector PP was indeed 36V.) Thinking that maybe I was getting some high frequency oscillation that was not showing up on my 'scope (an old 50MHz Tektronix), I placed a ferrite bead on the base lead of the final -- no change. I then put a bead on the emitter end of the 20 Ohm resistor between the 2N2222A driver and output control pot. Bingo! I could get a full 3W output with a drain current of about 420 mA (give or take some -- don't have the actual numbers in front of me). Final collector waveform still looked the same, but a little lower in peak-to-peak amplitude. Wonder if anyone else has run into this? For what its worth, I measured the inductance of the beads to be about 0.18 microH at 7.0 MHz (don't know the material type).

I have added an SWR indicator using two LED's as per a QST article last May or so (funny thing; I was toying with the idea of using LED's in an SWR meter when the article appeared!!). Also plan to add an RIT "on indicator", KU7Y's variable filter mod, and an RAC keyer chip -- if I can find the room in that little box! In case you can't tell, I get as much (or more) fun out

of modifying things as building 'em!

72, Larry W1HUE/7
LVE1@inel.gov

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Stephen Trier <af295@po.cwru.edu>
Subject: [875] NorCal 40A final not working -- advice?
Message-ID: <199512050119.UAA12431@slc5.INS.CWRU.Edu>

Howdy, all!

I apologize for having to ask for some long-distance debugging advice, but I'm stumped on this one. My NorCal 40A sat on my bench, built but untested, when radio had to take a back seat to classes for a while. (My participation in QRP-L had to go away for a while, as well.) Now I have the time to align and test it, but it won't transmit.

The receiver works beautifully.

All of the transmitter stages work OK up to the final, where the signal disappears. When I key up, I see a nice ~3V pk-pk sinewave on the base of Q7, and 12VDC plus about 20mV pk-pk of sinewave on the collector. The receiver mutes but there is no sidetone.

There are no signs of oscillation visible on the scope.

RFC1, C44, and Q7 have been replaced. I checked R14's value with a meter, and I temporarily removed D12 to make sure it wasn't shorted or in backwards. (I checked it visibly about twelve times, but thought it was worth a shot anyway.)

I checked for solder bridges and bad joints several times, and touched up or redid everything that looked suspect. I double-checked my windings on T1. I checked for shorts in the capacitors and continuity through the toroids & toroid solder joints, to catch anything not properly stripped.

I'm stumped, and I haven't been able to find anyone locally who can help. (I must not hang out in the right circles.) Help! :-)

Stephen

--

Stephen Trier KG8IH
sct@po.cwru.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [826] QRP rigs and Ten-Tec 6m xvtr (how bout 2m???)
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512040850.C4188-0100000@w3eax.umd.edu>

Alternately, one could pull the transverter's frequency down less than it currently is, either by using the trimmer cap (from building it, don't remember if it's able to be pulled that far, though) or by getting a new xtal, such that the mixing freq. is 36.050 or 36.075, producing a freq. shift that will allow the QRP rigs to work.

You know, I don't know why I didn't think of that sooner.

Another question:

Please raise your hand if you would like to see a Ten-Tec xverter to convert 20m to 2m. I would personally love it, and would buy it in a heartbeat. I talked to one of the engineers down there last week and he said it hadn't been mentioned, but he'd bring it up.

A hundred or so sales would certainly convince them, methinks.

Only thing I'd require is that the xtal be able to be selected such that one could start the band around 144.160, thus your normal 75 kHz spread would get you up to 144.235, which is perfect for contesting and general work.

Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19 QRV 40-10/6/2/440
** Yes, you CAN do VHF contests with 25W and omni antennas **
Still stuck at 138 countries confirmed on HF w/dipoles...

72 & 73 from lovely suburban DC 301-549-1022 weekends/evenings

On Mon, 4 Dec 1995, John D. Hysell wrote:

> Mark writes:

>

> > It occurred to me the other day that it might be interesting to pair the
> > Cascade with the Ten-Tec 6M transverter. If I remember correctly, anyway,
> > the Ten-Tec uses a 20M IF and takes a few hundred mW for input and puts 3 or

> > 4 W. I really don't know that much about 6M these days...my experience on 6M
> > is with the old Heath Sixer back when it was new...but it sounds like an
> > interesting set-up.
>
> > Any thoughts or comments from the gang?
>
> > 73... Mark AA7TA
>
> I have both the Ten-Tec transverter and the Cascade, and did indeed think about
> pairing them. Unfortunately, it is not so simple to pull off without losing
something
> in the bargain. The Ten-Tec applies a straight conversion of 14MHz freq as an
IF
> up to the 50MHz output. SO if you want to work where MOST of the 6m action is,
> you need to set the Cascade for 14.125 (just below where the band edge is set by
> design). If you tinker with the 20m band edge to reach 14.125, you are also
> driving the 75m upper edge higher, and losing the low end of 75m...
>
> Still might be fun to do temporarily, but I wouldn't want to leave the Cascade
> crippled on 75m like that...
> 73 -John
> KF2XC (QRP-L # 208)
>
>

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: "Warren E. Lewis" <saswel@unx.sas.com>
Subject: [853] QRP Sailboat Antennas
Message-ID: <199512041943.AA13849@cardamom.unx.sas.com>

Gang,

Was wondering if any members of the group had any
experience with HF antenna installations on a sailboat.
I have heard of folks insulating the backstay and running
it as a random wire. Also I imagine any of the mobile antennas
could be adapted for maritime use.

Any hints, experiences or ideas?

- Warren

--

Warren E. Lewis
Technical Support Division
SAS Institute Inc.

saswel@unx.sas.com
(919) 677-8001 x6542
PP-ASEL

Cary, NC

AD4ZE QRP-L#78 DOD#0021

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net (George Gingell)
Subject: [836] QRP#S
Message-ID: <1995Dec04.104712.10815@abs.net>

HI JIM,

Some people have all the luck... I guess that's what you get when you procrastinate too long. I finally got around to sending the message this morning. I got # 216. I can't wait to see what Number Mike, WA8MCQ GOT. I was at least hoping for a gud RST RPT.

(301)572-6789

QRP DX TU (C)1986 Danny Gingell,K3TKS@bbs.abs.net

--

George Gingell, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [832] QRP+ It could happen to you
Message-ID: <199512041531.KAA29866@dartvax.dartmouth.edu>

Hello Gang,

I plugged the power cord into the back of the QRP+ and had the male plug just a little crooked and touched the side of the power plug on the rig.

POOF!!

No more receiver!

The antenna was connected at the time. The fuse did blow, but did not protect the rig. I know that this same thing happened to someone else too but I don't remember who. And he reported it here at QRP-L. The rig is now earning frequent flyer miles to Gig Harbor. When I get it back I'm going to change the plug to a pig tail power connection that is plastic and keyed. No reversals that way!

de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)

Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@tir.com>
Subject: [872] qrp-1 number
Message-ID: <9512050027.AB11153@sun>

qrp-1 number

QRK 2
QSA 4
QRI 6

Well, it is qrp with a rotten B voltage!

*/
*/ Hank Kohl K8DD k8dd@tir.com
*/ MI-QRP QRP-ARCI G-QRP NorCal
*/ ARRL/LM QCWA/LM QCAO/LM
*/

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: paxton@sound.net (frank paxton iii)
Subject: [842] qrp-1 number for sale ! HURRY !
Message-ID: <199512041709.LAA10227@sound.net>

111

ahhhh... the symetry, the PERFECTION, built on the ONE and the THREE, yes, the 3...the triangle, the core 'shape' of the universe. and the one. no duality. not one not two. three. very budhist.

for you JNOS types...consider TRACE 111 ... the 'trancendental' content of that statement is ENORMOUS ..

THINK WHAT THIS WILL SAY ABOUT YOU. THIS IS STATUS DELUXE !
hurry hurry HURRY.... don't let it get away !

it can BE YOURS for 12 bars of gold pressed latinum !

i know that you ALL WANT THIS NUMBER. nevermind chuck telling you this drive1 about how you CAN'T CHANGE NUMBERS. people once thought you couldn't CHANGE YOUR BODY ! imagine. y it's done EVERY DAY ...

we will provide you with MY IDENTITY. and MY LIFE. it's EASY... you just GET TO BE ME ! you get MY CALLSIGN too. ng0n. no extra charge.

in fact, for a small additional charge (negotiable) i can throw in my house, my cars, my station, my wife ok NOT my wife or dog... but EVERYTHING ELSE THERE IS !

so you need NOT miss a single posting of qrp-l. the changeover will be seamless, flawless and perfect. you have MY (or should i say YOUR..hahha) word on this.

serious inquiries may be sent to YOUR NEW IDENTITY paxton@sound.net

disclaimer: i am NOT affiliated with chuck, listserv, or lehigh university. offer is limited and not extended where prohibited by law.

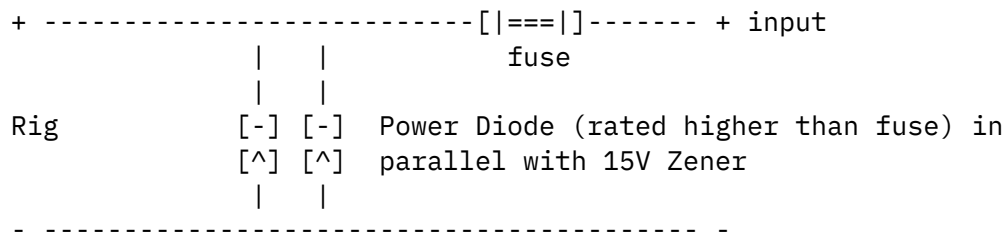
de ng0n.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Subject: [866] Reverse Polarity Protection
Message-ID: <951204164946_124736510@emout05.mail.aol.com>

Hi Bill,

I've been reading the controversy about protecting your rig from incorrect polarity, isnt the following approach, still a shot in the dark. couldnt the wrong polarity still burn up the rig, before the fuse blows ?

I've been using the following scheme:

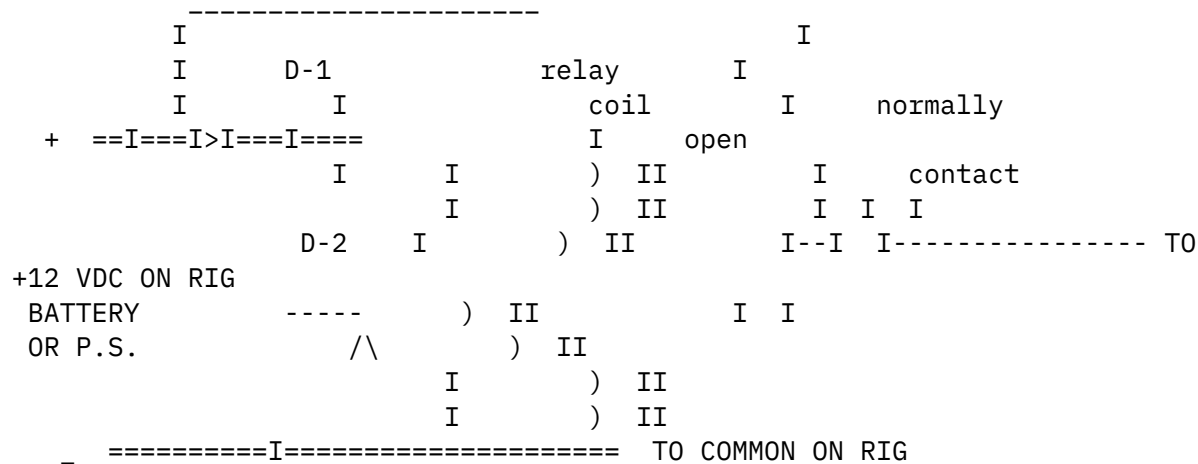


...to address reverse and over voltage for QRP level (couple amp) rigs.

RS sells a nice 5 pack of 6A diodes.

. - I own my own words -
 Bill Acito

A better approach might be the following:



D-1 prevents reversed polarity from entering the rig by keeping the relay de energized.

D-2 makes sure the relay drops out immediately upon losing power (optional) the relay could be a reed relay or a miniature ice cube relay with a 12 vdc coil that draws

about 10 ma. (if used for a battery operated rig) or any 12 vdc relay for home/power supply use.

The relay contact takes full battery voltage and delivers it to the rig only if the polarity is correct.

If you felt it necessary, you could add the zener diode for over voltage protection, I don't feel it's worth adding and some zeners generate their own noise. Many solar panels generate 16 volts and immediately upon connection could easily blow fuses unnecessarily. Since the battery would quickly bring the voltage down, acting like a load resistor. This would only happen if disconnected and reconnected the solar panel or an unregulated power supply.

What do you think Bill, a better solution ?

72, Byron WA8LCZ Detroit

I own my own words. Want to buy em ?

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: richards@nylink.org
Subject: [873] Sprint Results
Message-ID: <9512050038.AA06705@genesis.nylink.org>

Hi All,

Well, Sprint conditions were ok, had lots of QSO's, I win.
Okay, I had 8 Q's on 80M for a single band entry. If my math is correct, that's 6,120 points. Would have been more but had to take 45 minutes out for supper, right when 80M started to open up and I could actually hear people :-(

But CQing on 80M at 3pm gives rise to strange thoughts. I said to myself, "Self, are two radios at the same time allowed, just like in the QRO contests." Hmm, seems reasonable to me, QRP tests don't seem to have huge runs. You could CQ on one band, S&P on another, CQ on two bands, etc. No two transmitters on at the same time. Is it legal? I think that would be a multi-single in QRO tests.

Anyway, another enjoyable ARCI test. Can't wait for the next one.

Rig-NorCal Sierra 1.5 watts (remembered to charge the battery)
Antenna-40M Delta (sort of) Loop w/peak about 40 feet

72 de Rick WZ2T NNY |from MST3K-Santa Claus Conquers the Martians

richards@nylink.org
QRP-L # 122

|Joel Robinson-"Crow, what do you want for
|Christmas?"
|Crow T. Robot-"I wanna decide who lives and
|who dies!"
|Joel-"Oh, I don't know about that."

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: N5EM@aol.com
Subject: [863] TP = Telephone Pioneers
Message-ID: <951204161434_124702302@emout06.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 95-12-04 15:38:01 EST, Dah-Jyuu, N2YKP wrote:

>I heard a lot of folks on the 20m SSB calling "CQ Telephone Pioneer", they
>must be the same thing.

>
>

And for those who don't know/care, Telephone Pioneers are generally members
of
operating telephone companys, current or retired and their radio clubs.

Ed

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [838] TVI in reverse
Message-ID: <9512041618.AA27444@voder.nsc.com>

I found an interesting source of RFI
this weekend.

I've been having an intermittant problem
while trying to work RS12. At first I
thought it was Murphy at work. It seemed
that the recv band would be very quiet,
just until AOS (aquisition of signal). Then
all of a sudden, this very loud static hash
would come on. And without pattern would,

fade, resurge, go away, come back, etc.

I went around, inside and out with a SW radio trying to find the source, but no joy.

Finally, this weekend, when the familiy was out, I heard the hash on the 10m recv frequency and turned off the all the breakers at the circuit breaker panel. Voila! No more hash. I had suspected it was a neighbor or maybe the construction going on nearby. But, nope, it's in my house.

Step by step, I turned on half the breakers, no noise, toggle the halves. There's the noise.

Continuing this devide and conquer approach to reduce the number of trips up and down the stairs, I finally narrowed it to the master bedroom.

Contents:

- older clock radio
- electric blanket
- night light
- newer combo colorTV/VCR

Any of these items could do it. It was the TV/VCR, purchased last June. A Magnavox. The two things this tv/vcr does is: Be ready to take a tape even with the power off, and support a configuration in memory.

I now have a switched outlet to the tv/vcr so I can conveniently quiet the noise for RS12 work.

```
=====
7.3 de Michael aa0ub          | QRP:
miker@cc.com                  |      "UR HB 5W FB HR 72"
QRP-L #126  Norcal #857  CQC #180 |
=====
```

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: David Adams <dave@flowserver.stem.com>
Subject: [850] Whiterook mini-paddles as seen at Norcal meeting
Message-ID: <9512041911.AA13959@flowserver.stem.com>

A lot of people where asking about these paddles at the norcal meeting, so the information once more is:

Whiterook Products Co.
309 S. Brookshire Ave.
Ventura, Ca 93003
Tel 805-339-0702

Cost of the MK-22 Pocket Mini-Key is 8.95
Cost of the MK-44 Picket mini-Keyer Paddle is 9.95

73 de dave, n9uxu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: bmitchel@cba.kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)
Subject: [859] Yacota
Message-ID: <9512042036.AA20570@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

Yacota? isn't that near Montana?
And hey BTW has Danny re-surfaced yet? My parts stock is dwindling.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: "Diana, Gary M" <gmd@rfpo1.rfc.comm.harris.com>
Subject: [856] YACOTA!
Message-ID: <30C359AF@smtpgate.rfc.comm.harris.com>

YACOTA - Yet Another Cascade On The Air!

Well I finally finished my Cascade and put a new dipole up at the homestead. Got to test the rig using the 75/80m module, and made several contacts in the northeast, from Massachussetts to across Rochester NY. Audio reports were very complimentary.

As far as contruction errata is concerned, I think the biggest mistake I made was sorting the parts ahead of time, and putting "that loose crystal" with the others! Oops! That's the one for the BF0, hey it's in with the matched crystals now! (Yep, I sorted it out using the Cascade BF0

circuit and a frequency counter).

The manual and various corrections lengthened my time-to-complete, but it forced me to check and re-check the parts list, errata, and schematics. In other words, this is not a dot-to-dot construction project

-- I viewed it this way: for \$160 I got to build one of the first 200 Cascades in existence.

Once the manual is corrected, ANYBODY will be able to build this the first time and get it working. And hey, you get to participate in what might be looked back upon as important QRP history!

Really, the challenge of building the Cascade is being able to put together the mods, figure out which ones make sense, and find out what documentation bugs are still lurking. Did anyone notice the transformer, T1, in the 20m module? The parts list and schematic do not agree (red vs yellow toroid).

Another interesting thing about the Cascade, is that it gives us all an insight into what kind of effort is required to get a product out, for fun or profit.

Want to go into the radio kit business?? Better call Doug H, he may have some advice for you!!!

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: an966@Freenet.UCHSC.EDU (Gene McGahey)
Subject: [843] [listserv@Lehigh.EDU: RUN QRP-L X GETNR a17gq]
Message-ID: <199512041722.KAA09646@Freenet.UCHSC.EDU>

===== Begin forwarded message =====

From: listserv@Lehigh.EDU (unknown)
To: an966@freenet.uchsc.edu
Subject: RUN QRP-L X GETNR a17gq
Date: Sun, 03 Dec

an966@freenet.uchsc.edu: List QRP-L is private for members only.

Only subscribers may issue this request.

This is my response to a request for a QRP-L member number. Having been on the list from the beginning, what's up????

Any ideas are appreciated. 72, Geno AL7GQ

PS: Maybe that means I can assign my own QRP-L number: I claim #72/73 :-)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: "Warren E. Lewis" <saswel@unx.sas.com>
Subject: [852] Re: ARCI CW Holiday Spririts Homebrew Sprint
Message-ID: <199512041938.AA13824@cardamom.unx.sas.com>

Gang,

Conditions were not too bad here in North Carolina. I just could not make time to participate more than about 45 minutes. I had two short chunks of time to participate before I had to go and finish painting and grouting the bathroom.

Here is the short summary:

SPCs: GA, NC, MD, IN, OH, AR, NH, NY, and NJ
ARCI Members: 7
QSO Points: 39
Mults: 9
Power Mult: 7
Total Score: 2457

I heard WA0RPI and a few others that could not hear me.

Look forward to doing it again next time. Hopefully, next time I'll get to play some more.

cheers - Warren

--

Warren E. Lewis
Technical Support Division
SAS Institute Inc.
Cary, NC

saswel@unx.sas.com
(919) 677-8001 x6542
PP-ASEL
AD4ZE QRP-L#78 DOD#0021

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [864] Re: ARCI CW Holiday Spririts Homebrew Sprint
Message-ID: <199512042132.0AA20807@usr4.primenet.com>

At 01:07 PM 12/4/95 EST, Byron8LCZ@aol.com wrote:

>How were conditions from your neck of
>the woods?

>

>Rig: QRP Plus at 5 watts, antenna: Gap Titan vertical, DSP: JPS NRF-7.

>

>72, Byron WA8LCZ

>

>

Not good here in AZ....high noise on 40, no activity on 15, only 2 Q's (*) on 20. Explorer 20 and NorCal 40A, 2 watts, R-7. At least I got to use my new ARCI number.

(*) 1300-1700 local is prime honeydo time around here. Couldn't sneak in as much rig time as I wanted.

Hope it was better elsewhere.

72, Roger AA7QY

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: K5ERJ@aol.com
Subject: [869] Re: ARCI CW Holiday Spririts Homebrew Sprint
Message-ID: <951204180801_124819889@mail06.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 95-12-04 13:08:56 EST, Byron wrote::

>How were conditions from your neck of the woods?

Personally, I worked 40 only with the OHR Classic at 4 Watts to a 80/40 trap dipole. Wound up with 30 Q's in 18 states plus Manitoba (VE4AKI).

Quite frankly the band seemed in much better shape than on the nights I listen for "El Foxo" amid the BC and South American stations. First Q was right on the dot with N0IZZ in nearby KC MO area. He was doing a 579 number on my receiver front end. From then on it was up and down, lots of 339 sigs, and conversely, lots of 569-579 too.

Furtherst East was NJ (N2YVF, 339) West, KE6ATM (also 339 but running 100W). Really didn't hear any list members I recognized.

Final Score:

123 Pts x 19 SPC x7 +5000= 21, 359 pts.

Really looking forward now to the Fireside Sprint on January 21st.

72

Ed K5ERJ (Kansas)

Norcal (# unknown)

QRP ARCI

NE QRP (If I ever hear back from my application and check)

"Everybodys looking for the answer.....but most don't even know the question"

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995

From: Steve KG7PV <kg7pv@teleport.com>

Subject: [819] Re: Balun?

Message-ID: <199512040507.VAA07721@desiree.teleport.com>

At 06:35 PM 12/3/95 EST, you wrote:

>

>Hi guys. I haven't asked a question for a while, so I thought I would
>pose this one to you. I have been told that building a 4:1 balun is
>quite simple, but the fellow ham that I was talking to did not remember
>too much. Can anybody help me out, the wire antenna that I'm building
>calls for a 4:1 balun, and I would prefer to make/build one than purchase
>one from the local ham dealers.

>

>73 es tn timer.

> Jeff - VA3JFF

>

Well, of several sources the best I can find is the ARRL Antenna Book on page 25-15 and

25-16. There you can find a 4:1 coil (air) balun and several broadband toroidal baluns.

They give instructions and some great diagrams for the toroidal baluns. I have built these

and they work great. They use a 10 turn bifilar winding on a CF-123 core (big) and hook

up this way: "a" and "b" are one end with "c" and "d" being the other end - "a"/"c" and

"b"/"d" are the labels for each end of the wires. Connect "b" and "c" to

the ground end of your
balanced line with "d" to the other. Connect "a" to the center of your coax
and the shield to ground.
Let me know if you need pictures.
Steve Miller KG7PV
Norcal # 308, QRP-L #109

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Wynn C C <wyn@stc06.ctd.ornl.gov>
Subject: [874] Re: Balun?
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951204201020.20741A-1000000@stc06.ctd.ornl.gov>

On Sun, 3 Dec 1995 18:35:49 EST Jeffrey Hetherington wrote:

>Hi guys. I haven't asked a question for a while, so I thought I would
>pose this one to you. I have been told that building a 4:1 balun is
>quite simple, but the fellow ham that I was talking to did not remember
>too much. Can anybody help me out, the wire antenna that I'm building
>calls for a 4:1 balun, and I would prefer to make/build one than purchase
>one from the local ham dealers.

>

>73 es tnx.

> Jeff

Jeff,

I assume you are wanting a QRP Balun. I will post a couple of
following messages with complete instruction plans under
"4:1 QRP Balun Part 1 of 2" and "4:1 QRP Balun Part 2 of 2".

Best regards,
Clay Wynn N4A0X
wyn@ornl.gov

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Alan Kaul <kaul@netcom.com>
Subject: [821] Re: every day computer logging programs
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512032141.A26707-0100000@netcom2>

Hyperlog, V 2.26

It is a fairly good logging program that is going to be updated
soon (author has promised Version 3 for about the last year...it is in

beta testing, but I don't think it is out yet). The weakest links with Hyperlog seem to me to total two: 1) the QSL printing function wastes a lot of space and includes much extraneous information (including both band and frequency(!!!) and RST received!) --- and unlike CT 8.50's QSL subroutine which enables MULTIPLE QSO's on the same label, Hyperlog limits it to one QSO per label AND DOES NOT ALPHABETIZE THE LABELS (which is very IN-convenient for anyone who sends via the bureau). Weaklink #2) inputting data from other programs like CT.

Big communications problem between the authors -- K1EA decides what he's going to do and does it, claiming he'll use such-and-such a formula for the bit mapping of all QSO's. Then it would appear that some contests --- i.e. single band contests like the ARRL 160 DIDN'T FIT THE CONTEST RECORD BITMAP that K1EA previously announced. Hyperlog's author either doesn't or won't talk to K1EA and vice versa.

So there were a few contests when Hyperlog data processing of CT info was WRONG by one band!! VERY nervewracking and very frustrating, to say the least, although Hyperlog tends to process better now (I still always make backup copies of the previous QSO record datafile before trying to add the latest CT-produced contest data!!!!). In the future, I still have hopes that Hyperlog will allow me to customize my labels and that author Joe Spear will allow more than one QSO per label. After the last messy time with processing CT problems, I suggested to Joe that he not bother with CT's QSO record information in binary --- that he waits to process the completed log info downstream -- i. e. after the log is written in ascii instead. He said that seemed like a good idea.

So, I await Hyperlog 3. And am staying with CT 8.50. I am, as they say, an optimist!

73 de alan, w6rcl

[<Alan Kaul, W6RCL>] kaul@netcom.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell)
Subject: [845] Re: feedline transformation
Message-ID: <v02130502ace8d7b5d6ab@[192.91.202.41]>

-----Mike aa0ub had a dipole with a length of 450 ohm lead before the coax---
>
>How much ladder line can cause the mismatch?
>At what point does the 450ohm have an effect?
>

>10 feet? 5 feet? 6 inches? 2 inches?

>

>There must be a minimum at which the 450ohm impedance is no

>longer a factor.

>

The minimum length is a function of both frequency and your definition of effect. For normal ham use, say a 1.5 vswr kind of effects, draw the 1.5 vswr circle on your smith chart...the r axis points are at 0.67 and 1.5, or 33 to 75 ohms. The 450 ohm transformer requires us to re-normalize from 50 to 450 ohms; so the effective 1.5 vswr circle is now centered at $50/450 = 0.111$. The end points of the circle similarly scale to $33/450 = 0.073$ and $75/450 = 0.167$. This is a pretty tight circle; to stay inside it, it looks like the transformer can be at most around 0.01 wavelengths long, or about 17 inches long for 40 meters.

The reason for this sensitivity is the large ratio of impedances. Using a lower impedance twin lead would let it be roughly proportionately longer. You could expect 300 ohm twinlead to be ok at lengths to 24 inches (big deal!), but 75 ohm twinlead (which I have heard of but never seen ...) probably would have caused you no problem at all in your original configuration....you were matching to a 72 ohm antenna anyway!

Stuart, K5KVH, will have the definitive answers later today ;-)

72, KJ7EY (p.s. just passed my extra....does that mean I loose my qrp-1 no?)

Kent Torell torell@sicom.com 602-483-2867
SICOM 7585 E. Redfield, #202 Scottsdale, AZ 85260

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Felix Barreras <chonte@prism.nmt.edu>
Subject: [855] Re: Holiday Sprint
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951204131013.837B-100000@black>

Hello Folks

I too copied that CQ TP and don't know what TP means!!!

de Felix WB5LXA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: ddw2@Lehigh.EDU (Dah-Jyuu D. Wang)
Subject: [857] Re: Holiday Sprint
Message-ID: <199512042032.PAA84095@ns2-1.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

===== Original Message =====

>From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Dec 4 20:23:11 1995
Return-Path: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Received: from fidoii.CC.Lehigh.EDU (fidoii.CC.Lehigh.EDU [128.180.1.4]) by nss2
CC.Lehigh.EDU (8.7.1/8.7.1) with ESMTP id PAA39352 for <ddw2@Lehigh.EDU>; Mon,

>Hello Folks
>I too copied that CQ TP and don't know what TP means!!!
>
>de Felix WB5LXA

I heard a lot of folks on the 20m SSB calling "CQ Telephone Pioneer", they
must be the same thing.

DJ/ n2ykp QRP-1 #71

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: David Speegle <dspeegle@dialin.ind.net>
Subject: [823] Re: New member Intro
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951204051459.20414A-100000@dialin.ind.net>

Welcome to the group! Dave NE9F

=====

David Speegle	Email Alias: David.Speegle@dialin.ind.net
311 S West St.	
Argos, IN 46511	
Phone: 219.546.3848	FAX:

=====

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: charles1@netcom.com (charles copeland)

Subject: [834] Re: PS polarity fix
Message-ID: <199512041537.HAA23494@netcom15.netcom.com>

> To answer a question I saw last week about a diode to protect the rig if the
> power supply polarity is reversed: the 1N4007 diode soldered across the PS
> connector is there for this: if the polarity is reversed the diode conducts,
> which is a shortcut for the PS and blow the fuse (the fuse need to be
> between the PS and the diode!).

HELPFUL HINT:

Install a diode bridge on DC input. (usually used to rectify AC to DC).
No matter what polarity you connect DC to board, the correct polarity
will be presented to the circuit board.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
Subject: [837] Re: PS polarity fix
Message-ID: <199512041546.HAA20581@netcom18.netcom.com>

>HELPFUL HINT:

>Install a diode bridge on DC input. (usually used to rectify AC to DC).
>No matter what polarity you connect DC to board, the correct polarity
>will be presented to the circuit board.

I'd prefer the former (shunt diode to blow fuse) approach. None of my radios
or power supplies has a fully isolated power input/output, so the bridge
rectifier approach would be quite difficult to implement. Also I wouldn't
want to take a 1.4V loss (two diode drops) out of a 13.8V supply as a bridge
would impose (the shunt diode imposes no such loss).

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

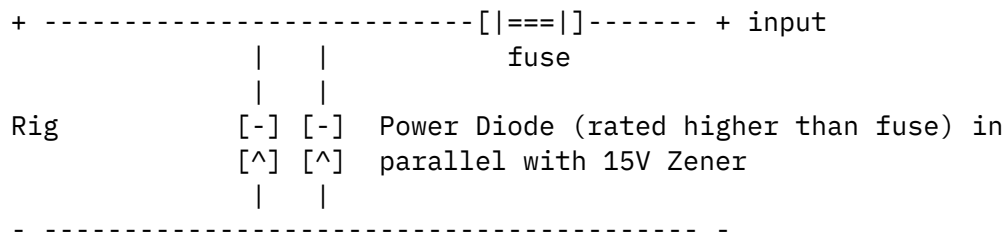
From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Bill Acito 04-Dec-1995 1135 <acito@asdg.UNET.dec.com>
Subject: [841] Re: PS polarity fix
Message-ID: <9512041651.AA10905@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

Charles Copeland, "charles1@netcom.com" wrote:

|HELPFUL HINT: Install a diode bridge on DC input. (usually used
|to rectify AC to DC). No matter what polarity you connect DC to
|board, the correct polarity will be presented to the circuit
|board.

But you lose a diode drop or two, don't you?

I've been using the following scheme:



...to address reverse and over voltage for QRP level (couple amp)
rigs.

RS sells a nice 5 pack of 6A diodes.

b

. - I own my own words -
Bill Acito
acito@asdg.enet.dec.com
|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Equipment Corporation Hudson, MA

KC1GS ... qrp-ne ... qrp-l ... qrp-arci ... norcal ... arrl life ...

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: charles1@netcom.com (charles copeland)
Subject: [849] Re: PS polarity fix
Message-ID: <199512041844.KAA29616@netcom13.netcom.com>

>>HELPFUL HINT: Install a diode bridge on DC input. (usually used
>>to rectify AC to DC). No matter what polarity you connect DC to
>>board, the correct polarity will be presented to the circuit
>>board.

>
> But you lose a diode drop or two, don't you?
>

You can use schottsky diodes with .3v drop. Total drop would be .6v. Don't think they make schottsky bridges, so would have to use four diodes. New to QRP, so don't know how particular these rigs are to any level of voltage drop.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: ddw2@Lehigh.EDU (Dah-Jyuu D. Wang)
Subject: [854] Re: PS polarity fix
Message-ID: <199512041941.0AA79741@ns2-1.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>>HELPFUL HINT: Install a diode bridge on DC input. (usually used
>>to rectify AC to DC). No matter what polarity you connect DC to
>>board, the correct polarity will be presented to the circuit
>>board.

>
> But you lose a diode drop or two, don't you?
>

>You can use schottsky diodes with .3v drop. Total drop would
>be .6v. Don't think they make schottsky bridges, so would have to
>use four diodes. New to QRP, so don't know how particular these rigs are
>to any level of voltage drop.

I had use the Schottky type of diode to protect my 1w homebrew 20m SSB rig. The voltage drop on the diode (Motorolla 1N5822 (5820?)) was 0.18V which will not cause too much power loss for QRP operations. A typical rig might run between 0.1 to 0.3A which means a loss of 18mW to 54mW due to the diode.

DJ/ n2ykp QRP-1 #71

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
Subject: [835] Re: QRP+ It could happen to you
Message-ID: <199512041544.HAA20275@netcom18.netcom.com>

So the scenario is that the radio was connected to the antenna (and therefore

your systemwide ground), then as you were plugging the power plug into the receiver the barrel (minus side) of the power plug touched the center conductor (plus side) of the power jack?

Could you elaborate on the fault that appears to have occurred? It doesn't seem this warning would be specific to just the QRP PLUS...

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [839] Re: QRP+ It could happen to you
Message-ID: <199512041629.LAA07682@dartvax.dartmouth.edu>

>
>Could you elaborate on the fault that appears to have occurred? It doesn't
>seem this warning would be specific to just the QRP PLUS...
>
>73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

Hello Dave,

I sent a surge of power through the case to ground, and apparently the receiver was in the way.

73 de AA1IK

Ernie

de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)

Ernie Gregoire

RR 1 Box 221

Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET

packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Duane Anderson <dandersn@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [858] Re: qrp-1 number for sale ! HURRY !
Message-ID: <199512042034.MAA21587@ix7.ix.netcom.com>

At 12:10 PM 12/4/95 EST, you wrote:

># 111

>

>ahhhh... the symetry, the PERFECTION, built on the ONE and the THREE, yes,
>the 3...the triangle, the core 'shape' of the universe. and the one. no
>duality. not one not two. three. very budhist.

>

>for you JNOS types...consider TRACE 111 ... the 'trancendental' content
>of that statement is ENORMOUS ..

>

>THINK WHAT THIS WILL SAY ABOUT YOU. THIS IS STATUS DELUXE !

>hurry hurry HURRY.... don't let it get away !

(snip, snip)

AND ETC. ETC. ETC. ETC.

YOU HAVE BEEN WATCHING TOO MUCH STAR TREK AND DEEP SPACE NINE!!!

STICK TO THE RADIO WORK AND CW....YOU WONT GO AS CRAZY!

72/73,
Duane, KJ7HO
QRP-L 164

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: W3HMS@aol.com
Subject: [818] Re: Request for Rulemaking?
Message-ID: <951203234409_124178690@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Point seems well take. 73, John

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [830] Re: Request for Rulemaking?
Message-ID: <199512041521.KAA05742@dartvax.dartmouth.edu>

Hi Marshal, HacoonaH Matadah man,!

For a translation of Hacoona Matadah, watch "The Lion King".

73 de AA1IK
Ernie

<SNIP>

Several times over the last week or so I've seen for-sale ads from people who say "please respond direct as I am not a subscriber."

>

>Why should the List be available for such purposes to those who aren't otherwise interested in contributing or learning?

>

>Please pardon the whining, and excuse this use of bandwidth-- if you want to comment please do so direct. I feel better now.

>

>73/72

>Marshall

>AA0XI/VK5FN

>QRP-L #153

>CQC #154

>

>

>

de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)

Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: Bill Acito 04-Dec-1995 1708 <acito@asdg.UNET.dec.com>
Subject: [867] re: Reverse Polarity Protection
Message-ID: <9512042221.AA04707@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

|What do you think Bill, a better solution ?

Not sure; your schematic was garbled on this end... maybe a proportional vs fixed font issue. But I got the gist.

I'm assuming that the diode will forward bias fast enough to short the supply before any significant damage occurs, even if the fuse takes a few milliseconds to blow. Obviously, the fuse should be sized to the rig draw, and the main diode should exceed the current rating of the fuse. The Norcal 40 uses a diode in series, not across, doesn't it? I like the fuse idea for batteries, too.

My understanding is this is similar in theory to a crowbar, which shorts the supply via an SCR through a fuse when the voltage goes too high. I have had a crowbar successfully save my Ten Tec Omni when the supply jumped to 28V with a shorted pass transistor.

I don't know guys... I'm a cleanroom engineer by trade (see the business section of this past weekend's NY Times if you want to see what I look like most days...) Seemed simple and elegant to me. Maybe a small cap across it to filter any induced noise?

Any EE types what to comment on the usefulness of this circuit? I'll spring for parts if someone wants to put this thing on a test bench with a scope and reverse it. I take no responsibility for smoke, flame, flying fragments, etc.

b

. - I own my own words -

Bill Acito

acito@asdg.enet.dec.com

|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Equipment Corporation Hudson, MA

KC1GS ... qrp-ne ... qrp-l ... qrp-arci ... norcal ... arrl life ...

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995

From: "MIKE HERR" <mike_herr@imdgw.chinalake.navy.mil>

Subject: [829] Re: RS12 op

Message-ID: <n1394061151.50424@imdgw.chinalake.navy.mil>

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: N5EM@aol.com
Subject: [828] Re: SUN SPOTS: THE BEST IS YET TO COME!
Message-ID: <951204094704_124397111@emout04.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 95-12-04 08:52:16 EST, you write:

>Son, propagation was so good during the last peak.....
>
>Ops on the East Coast could hear folks in Barvaria humming on their back
>porches (or was it in their black Porches?)
>
>I worked Roger, UR59QRZ, in Huzcallingrad while I was sitting in the
>caffeteria at work using just a piece of tinfoil that I had inadvertantly
>bitten down on.
>
>I got 99 countries on 160M aurora. (Maybe next maximum I can finish DXCC.)
>
>I used to work across-town longpath.
>
>
>

This and more, as long as the supply of that funny smelling weed held out :-)

Ed

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 5 03:10:00 1995
From: WD6BOR@aol.com
Subject: [871] Re: Whiterook mini-paddles as seen at Norcal meeting
Message-ID: <951204184920_44302643@emout05.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 95-12-04 14:12:43 EST, dave@flowserver.stem.com (David Adams) writes:

>A lot of people where asking about these paddles at the norcal
>meeting, so the information once more is:
>
>
>Whiterook Products Co.
>309 S. Brookshire Ave.
>Ventura, Ca 93003
>Tel 805-339-0702
>

>Cost of the MK-22 Pocket Mini-Key is 8.95
>Cost of the MK-44 Picket mini-Keyer Paddle is 9.95

>

>

It was my paddle and Simple Cmos Keyer on the table with all the catalogs. I had just ordered from information I found here but the cost of the key MK-22 is now \$9.95. When you write ask for their catalog. They have more than just these two items.

72,

Darrel WD6BOR